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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-seventh session

Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019

(*Item 3 (a)*)

Report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019

Programme 12
Human settlements

1. At its 12th and 13th meetings, on 12 and 13 June 2017, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019 (A/72/84 and Corr.1 and 2).

2. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to questions raised during its consideration by the Committee.

Discussion

3. Clarification was sought as to whether the proposed changes to the biennial programme plan for 2018-2019, in particular the strategy, had been scrutinized and approved by the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). A delegation pointed out that more precise references to mandates, resolutions and outcome documents from international conferences, such as the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

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(Habitat III), which justified the proposed changes to the approved biennial programme plan for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1), should be included.

4. In reference to the results-based management framework, a delegation highlighted the fact that the indicators of achievement put forward did not provide clarity regarding the impact of the activities of the programme. In particular, there were no concrete benchmarks, such as percentages or concrete numbers, but rather references to an "increased number", which the delegation considered would not permit activities to be satisfactorily assessed. The delegation sought clarification as to how to measure performance without concrete targets and how to reorient programmes in respect of changing agendas.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to the narrative of programme 12, Human settlements, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/72/84 and Corr.1 and 2) and in section 15, Human settlements, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 15)), subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Urban legislation, land and governance

Overall orientation

Paragraph 42

Replace the second sentence with the following: "In this respect, the programme of work will include a cohesive portfolio of projects and initiatives that will respond to recent global strategic processes, including, within the mandate of UN-Habitat, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the outcome of the 2016 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, the "New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants"."

Replace the third sentence with the following: "The following seven subprogammes continue to be a vehicle for support by UN-Habitat to Member States and other partners, as appropriate, in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and related global priorities:"

Paragraph 50

Replace the last sentence with the following: "This may have a significant impact on achieving development outcomes in the field."

Paragraph 52

Replace the first sentence with the following: "At the global and, when requested, including as already defined through its mandate and relevant resolutions, the regional and national levels, UN-Habitat will coordinate, cooperate and collaborate with United Nations funds, agencies and programmes to support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda by governments."

Strategy

Paragraph 56 (b)

Replace the last sentence with the following: "Through the Global Land Tool Network and linked to UN-Habitat field projects, the subprogramme will support the adoption of policies and tools in priority areas, including the administration and regulation of land markets; fit-for-purpose and inclusive land records and land management systems; local, subnational and national capacity to manage land issues; improved land-based financing systems; inclusive land allocation and distribution strategies; the use of land readjustment as a means to acquire public space, develop housing space and improve urban layout; and the adoption of tools for land tenure security for women and the most vulnerable;"

Subprogramme 3
Urban economy and municipal finance

Strategy

Paragraph 61

Replace the first sentence with the following: "The subprogramme supports local, subnational and national authorities in adopting or implementing inclusive policies and strategies that are supportive of inclusive economic growth and development, the creation of economic opportunities for all, particularly young men and women and the most vulnerable, and improved municipal finance."

Subprogramme 4
Urban basic services

Strategy

Paragraph 63 (a)

Replace the third sentence with the following: "Efforts will focus on strengthening the technical and management capacity of governments and service providers to ensure institutional efficiency and effectiveness in service provision and to provide adequate levels of service for the urban poor, including to community institutions such as schools and hospitals, engaging in national and subnational policy and sector reform processes to mainstream urban basic services into national urban policies and practices, with a particular focus on the urban poor and the most vulnerable, and undertaking advocacy and networking on urban basic services."

Paragraph 63 (b)

Replace the fourth sentence with the following: "Pro-poor financing mechanisms will be developed to mobilize support for the urban poor and the most vulnerable."

Paragraph 63 (c)

Replace the seventh sentence with the following: "The subprogramme will take into account the needs and priorities of the urban poor and the most vulnerable."

Subprogramme 7
Urban research and capacity development

Strategy

Paragraph 69 (b)

Replace the second sentence with the following: "In this connection, UN-Habitat will disseminate the most reliable, relevant, up-to-date and comprehensive knowledge on sustainable urbanization issues, including as part of its contribution to the quadrennial report on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda."

Paragraph 69 (c)

Replace the last sentence with the following: "UN-Habitat and its partners will, within its mandate, support the execution of regional capacity-building programmes that respond to the need to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda effectively."